

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2807

INFO AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T DAR ES SALAAM 1030

E. O. 11652: XGDS2 DECLAS 12/31/99

TAGS: PFOR MAAS UG FR TZ

SUBJECT: FRENCH SELL ARMS TO UGANDA ?

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1029; KAMPALA 1115 (NOTAL)

1. DURING DISCUSSION CURRENT STATE TANZANIAN RELATIONS WITH UGANDA REPORTED REFTEL, FONMIN MALECELA SAID TANGOV SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT REPORT, WHICH HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY SEVERAL RELIABLE SOURCES, OF PURCHASE BY UGANDA OF FRENCH ARMS. UGANDANS HAVE REPORTEDLY BOUGHT RADAR EQUIPMENT AND EIGHTY ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS FITTED WITH SURFACE- TO- SURFACE MISSILES. MALECELA URGED U. S. REPRESENTATION TO FRENCH TO NOT RPT NOT INITIATE ARMS RACE IN EAST AFRICA.

2. WHILE CONCURRING IN DESIRE TO DAMPEN POSSIBLE ARMS RACE IN
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EAST AFRICA AND WILLING TO REPORT TANGOV REQUEST FOR OUR HELP WITH FRENCH ON THIS MATTER, I POINTEDLY ASKED IF TANGOV MAKING REPRESENTATIONS DIRECTLY TO FRENCH. MALECELA SAID HE HAD NO CONFIDENCE THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN DAR WOULD REPORT TANGOV REPRESENTATIONS ON THIS ISSUE. THEREFORE HE HAS NOT APPROACHED HIM, BUT HE HAS INSTRUCTED TANZANIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS TO PROTEST ARMS SALE. MALECELA ALSO IMPLIED THAT TANGOV WAS IN TOUCH WIINGS SET FOR CERTAIN OF THE SENSITIVE PRODUCTS.

ON MARCH 15, THE NORWEGIANS FINALLY SUBMITTED THEIR OWN LIST OF SENSITIVE PRODUCTS.

3. THE NORWEGIANS ASK FOR AN ELEVEN- YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD FOR TARIFF REDUCTIONS (THE NORMAL TIME- FRAME IS FOUR AND A HALF YEARS) FOR TEXTILE PRODUCTS, CLOTHING, SHOES, GLASS AND PORCELAIN PRODUCTS, PLASTICS, COLOR TV SETS, AND CERTAIN PRODUCTS OF THE MACHINERY INDUSTRY. THE LIST, WHICH INCLUDES APPROXIMATELY 120 ITEMS AND INVOLVES ABOUT 21 PERCENT OF NORWAY'S S IMPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY, WOULD AFFECT THE EXPORTS OF THE SMALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY MORE THAN THE LARGER ONES. THE COMMISSION REACTED WITH CONSIDERABLE DISSATISFACTION THAT SO UNREALISTIC A LIST SHOULD HAVE BEEN PRODUCED SO LATE IN THE GAME AND AT A STAGE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHEN ITS INTRODUCTION SEEMED PURELY A NEGOTIATING TACTIC. (IN COMMENTING ON THE LIST, A COMMUNITY OFFICIAL NOTED THAT THE NORWEGIANS HAD BEEN URGING SPEED ON THE EC. THE EC HAD ATTEMPTED TO MEET THIS DESIRE BY PRODUCING A LIST OF SENSITIVE PRODUCTS WITH LITTLE SPARE MEAT ON IT: TO HAVE THE NORWEGIANS INTRODUCE NOW SUCH A " PADDED" LIST HAS CREATED CONSIDERABLE ADVERSE COMMENT.)

4. THE NORWEGIANS, SOMEWHAT DISCONCERTED BY THE COMMION' S REACTION, INTRODUCED A REVISED LIST AT THE PLENARY MEETING OF MARCH 23, REDUCING BY ALMOST HALF THE PRODUCTS FOR WHICH THEY WERE REQUESTING SPECIAL TREATMENT. THEY HAVE DROPPED ALMOST ALL MACHINERY ITEMS FROM THE LIST, AS WELL AS SOME GLASS AND PORCELAIN PRODUCTS, AND PLASTICS. THEY HAVE, AS WELL, REDUCED THEIR REQUESTED TRANSITION PERIOD FROM 11 TO 7 YEARS, AND THE LIST NOW COVERS ABOUT
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13 PERCENT OF NORWAY' S IMPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY.

5. ON MARITIME SHIPPING POLICY, NORWAY STILL HOPES TO PROPOSE SOME KIND OF " INFORMATION" (AS OPPOSED TO " CONSULTATION") PROCEDURE WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE

COMMUNITY. THE NORWEGIANS HAVE ALREADY ACCEPTED THAT ANY COMMUNITY CONCESSIONS ON FISH WILL BE CONTINGENT ON "NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION." IN EFFECT, THIS IS A LINK BETWEEN EC CONCESSIONS ON FISH AND A NORWEGIAN COMMITMENT NOT TO EXTEND THE FISHING LIMITS BEYOND TWELVE MILES.

6. MAJOR UNRESOLVED ISSUES INVOLVE ALUMINUM, AND THE TRADE-OFF BETWEEN COVERAGE OF NORWAY'S FISH PRODUCTS AND ACCESS TO NORWAY FOR CERTAIN EC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THE NORWEGIANS ARE STILL FIGHTING FOR THE INCLUSION IN THE AGREEMENT OF TINNED FISH, ESPECIALLY SARDINES, AND FROZEN PRAWNS, BUT THIS WILL DEPEND ON JUST HOW MUCH THEY ARE WILLING TO GIVE ON ACCESS FOR CERTAIN EC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (TOMATOES, WINE, FLOWERS)..

7. ON MARCH 28 THE COMMISSION WILL REPORT TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE IMPORTANT ISSUES UNRESOLVED BY THE PERMREPS ARE EXPECTED TO BE REFERRED TO THE APRIL 2-3 EC COUNCIL MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS FOR DECISION. BOTH SIDES CONSIDER THAT THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT BY EASTER TIME IS A REALISTIC HOPE. THE NORWEGIANS STATE THAT THEY WILL NEED FOUR TO SIX WEEKS FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT. THIS AND THE TIME NECESSARY TO MAKE THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL PREPARATIONS SEEM TO INDICATE JUNE 1 AS THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE FOR THE FIRST TARIFF CUTS. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO FORMAL PROPOSAL, THE NORWEGIANS HOPE NEVERTHELESS TO ADOPT THE COMMUNITY'S RULES OF ORIGIN ON APRIL 1.

8. COMMENT: THE NORWEGIANS PREFER TO HAVE THE FINAL DECISION ON THE UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS TAKEN AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL, RATHER THAN BY THE PERMREPS, BECAUSE THEY EXPECT THE COUNCIL TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. NORWEGIAN COMMERCE MINISTER EIKA WAS IN BRUSSELS LAST WEEK AND IS REPORTEDLY VISITING OTHER EC CAPITALS (LONDON AND
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BONN) TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR THE NORWEGIAN CASE, WHICH ALREADY ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FROM THE DANES.
HARTMAN

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